

magnetism and electricity. The book has been written to meet the needs of university students, and in the first part it is assumed that the student has not yet had an opportunity to become acquainted with the methods of calculus; but this assumption is soon discarded.

The range of the first volume may be briefly indicated by an enumeration of subdivisions. After an introduction of fifty pages come the subjects of motion, force, work and energy, harmonic motion, radiant propagation of vibratory motion, universal gravitation, the potential theory, gravity. Then follows a section on instruments and methods of measurement, and separate sections on the theory of gases, theory of liquids and theory of solid bodies, the last including a discussion of elasticity and of friction. The style of presentation is clear and direct, and frequent brief summaries help the reader to seize upon fundamental principles. Each section closes with an index of literature relating to its subject matter.

Quite possibly the state of the American market may not warrant the translation of this excellent treatise into our language, but it is well worth the attention of those who are sufficiently interested to examine the German edition.

W. LeCONTE STEVENS.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF CHICAGO.

A REGULAR meeting of the Bibliographical Society of Chicago was held in connection with the annual meeting of the American Library Association on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 22, at Niagara Falls. After the president's address by Mr. A. G. S. Josephson, a paper on the 'International Catalogue of Scientific Literature,' by Dr. Adler was read. This paper is published above.

Dr. Herbert Haviland Field, of Zürich, was introduced and gave an account of the Concilium Bibliographicum founded in Zürich by the third International Congress of Zoology, in 1895. This institution collects and records all publications in biology, giving to each article separate cards of Library Bureau size. These

cards aggregate at present twelve million for 150,000 titles, and thus constitute one of the largest, if not, indeed, the largest, collection of printed bibliographical cards. The Concilium Bibliographicum regards it as a technical triumph to have produced these cards for sale at the low price of one fifth cent per card. The cards are classified according to a methodical classification which is a development of the Dewey decimal system. For each topic found in the various publications there is a separate card published. In determining the various entries the text and not the title of the publication is considered, the number of entries for a single work often attaining ten or twelve. Besides supplying libraries and other institutions with complete sets of cards, the Concilium permits individual investigators to order cards for their own specialties. Thus the traveler going to Borneo could apply for the cards dealing with the fauna of Borneo. He would receive these at a nominal charge. In like manner any topic of investigation whatsoever can be asked for. The Institute is to-day nearly self-supporting, though it receives an annual subsidy of \$1,500 from the Swiss Federal Government. It confidently hopes that bibliographers in America will lend it their support in obtaining similar financial aid in the United States.

Mr. Wilberforce Eames, of the Lenox Library, New York, presented a report in favor of the formation of an American Bibliographical Society and recommended that the Bibliographical Society of Chicago be authorized to take the initiative in the formation of the society. The report was adopted and active steps toward organization will be taken in the fall.

CHARLES H. BROWN,
Secretary.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ST. LOUIS CONGRESS OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In the May number of the *Atlantic Monthly* there appeared an article by Dr. Hugo Münsterberg, giving, in a quasi-official manner, a statement of the plans for the St. Louis Congress of